

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 11303 172201Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----062870 172205Z /70

O O 172009Z JUL 78 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8216
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 11303

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR S/S TARNOFF

E.O. LL652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED L., JR.)
SUBJECT: ATHERTON TRIP

REF: STATE L72808; TEL AVIV 8985 (NOTAL)

L. TEL AVIV REFTEL RECOMMENDS ATHERTON PARTY DELAY
ARRIVAL TEL AVIV (NOW SCHEDULED FOR JULY 22) UNTIL
SEVERAL DAYS AFTER JULY 23 ISRAELI CABINET MEETING WHICH
WILL CONSIDER GOI RESPONSE TO SADAT'S DISCUSSION WITH
WEIZMAN. ALTERNATIVE OF GOING FIRST TO CAIRO JULY 22
IS COMPLICATED BY FACT NO TALKS WITH EGYPTIANS WILL
BE POSSIBLE UNTIL AFTER JULY 23 NATIONAL HOLIDAY.

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2. IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING, ATHERTON PROPOSES FOLLOWING
REVISED ITINERARY, IF IT IS AGREEABLE TO SAUDIS AND
JORDANIANS (AMBASSADORS EILTS AND LEWIS SEE NO PROBLEMS
FROM THEIR END):
JULY 22 - BRUSSELS-JIDDA
JULY 23 - IN JIDDA
JULY 24 - JIDDA-AMMAN

JULY 25 - N MMAN

JULY 26 - AMMAN-JERUSALEM

JULY 27 - IN JERUSALEM

JULY 28 - JERUSALEM-CAIRO

FOREGOING WOULD HAVE ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGE OF GIVING SAUDIS AND JORDANIANS EARLY READ-OUT ON DAYAN/KAMEL/VANCE TALKS. IF MORE CONVENIENT, ORDER OF JIDDA AND AMMAN STOPS COULD BE REVERSED (I.E., AMMAN JULY 23, JIDDA JULY 25). EMBASSIES AMMAN AND JIDDA ARE REQUESTED TO SOUND OUT HOST GOVERNMENTS ON THIS PROPOSED REVISED ITINERARY URGENTLY.

3. IF REVISED ITINERARY PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE NOT FEASIBLE, ONLY SOLUTION WE SEE IS TO PROCEED TO CAIRO FROM BRUSSELS, HAVE TWO DEAD DAYS THERE AND THEN PICK UP ON ORIGINAL SCHEDULE PER STATE REFTEL, EXCEPT THAT JERUSALEM STOP WOULD COME AT END, AS FOLLOWS:

JULY 22 - BRUSSELS-CAIRO

JULY 23-25 - IN CAIRO

JULY 26 - CAIRO TO AMMAN

JULY 27 - IN AMMAN

JULY 28 - AMMAN TO JIDDA

JULY 29 - IN JIDDA/TAIF

JULY 30 - JIDDA TO JERUSALEM

4. FOR DEPARTMENT: IF REVISED ITINERARY IN PARAGRAPH CONFIDENTIAL

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2 WORKS OUT, IT WOULD SEEM SENSIBLE TO HAVE USAF T-39 FROM GERMANY PICK UP IN BRUSSELS THOSE MEMBERS OF PARTY GOING TO JIDDA AND AMMAN (SIX PERSONS PLUS LUGGAGE), WHICH WOULD INTER ALIA SAVE COMMERCIAL AIR FARES FROM BRUSSELS TO MIDDLE EAST SINCE WE MUST PAY IN ANY EVENT FOR FLYING HOURS FOR T-39 FROM EUROPE TO MIDDLE EAST. PLEASE CHECK IF THIS IS FEASIBLE, HOW MANY PASSENGERS CAN BE ACCOMMODATED, AND TOTAL FLYING TIME BRUSSELS-JIDDA AND BRUSSELS-AMMAN INCLUDING REFUELING STOPS. REMAINING MEMBERS OF PARTY WOULD EITHER FLY COMMERCIALY BRUSSELS-JIDDA/AMMAN OR PROCEED DIRECTLY TO JERUSALEM AND REJOIN ATHERTON THERE.

5. APPRECIATE RESPONSES TO THIS MESSAGE IF POSSIBLE BY C.O.B. TUESDAY, JULY 18.
BREWSTER

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